

Message Text

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71

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ADP-00 IO-12 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 GAC-01 TRSE-00 MBFR-03 SAJ-01 ACDA-19 EB-11

COME-00 CEA-02 STR-08 OMB-01 RSR-01 /159 W

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R 221445 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8886

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 4232

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, IT, EEC, NATO

SUBJ: FONOFF VIEWS ON KISSINGER SPEECH

REF: STRASBOURG 072

1. DURING GENERAL DISCUSSION WITH DCM AND EMBOFFS MAY 21, FONOFF
VICE POL DIRGEN (MILESI FERRETTI) AND OFFICE DIRECTOR FOR EC POL
AFFAIRS (LA ROCCA) OFFERED SOME INTERESTING COMMENTS ON ITALIAN
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REACTION TO KISSINGER SPEECH ON EUROPE. FIRST OF ALL, OFFICIALS ECHOED REMARKS OF PRIMIN ANDREOTTI IN MAY 16 SPEECH BEFORE COUNCIL OF EUROPE ON NEED FOR GLOBAL APPROACH TO US/ EC CONSIDERATION OF TRADE, MONETARY, POLITICAL AND DEFENSE ISSUES. LA ROCCA NOTED THAT HE WAS PREPARING PAPER ALONG THESE LINES FOR PRESENTATION AT MAY 24 POL DIRECTOR'S MEETING ALTHOUGH HE ANTICIPATED THAT GOI PROPOSAL WOULD FACE TOUGH SLEDDING WITH FRENCH AND POSSIBLY OTHER EC PARTNERS. LA ROCCA STATED HIS CONVICTION THAT NOTHING MUCH WOULD HAPPEN IN PREPARING A EUROPEAN REPLY TO THE KISSINGER SPEECH UNTIL AFTER THE PRESIDENT'S MEETING WITH POMPIDOU IN REY-KJAVIK. IF POMPIDOU COMES AWAY FROM THE MEETING AND SIGNALS FRENCH SUPPORT THEN PROGRESS WILL BE MADE, LA ROCCA INDICATED.

2. AT SAME TIME, HOWEVER, FONOFF OFFICIALS POINTED OUT THE PRACTICAL DIFFICULTIES WHICH IMPLEMENTATION OF GLOBAL APPROACH WOULD ENTAIL IN TERMS OF EXISTING INSTITUTIONS. IN THE AREA OF TRADE AND MONETARY ISSUES, FOR EXAMPLE, THEY NOTED THAT NEGOTIATING FRAMEWORK ALREADY EXISTS AND IT SEEMED IMPRACTICAL TO TRY TO SUPERIMPOSE AN ADDITIONAL BURDEN SUGGESTED BY THE KISSINGER SPEECH ON THOSE ALREADY ESTABLISHED FACILITIES. ON THE OTHER HAND, IN THE DEFENSE AREA, THERE IS NO ONE FORUM IN WHICH ALL NATO AND EC STATES ARE REPRESENTED. IN THE DEFENSE AREA, THE FONOFF OFFICIALS INDICATED THAT NATO WOULD PROBABLY CONSTITUTE THE MOST APPROPRIATE FORUM INASMUCH AS IT INCLUDED THE FRENCH. LA ROCCA ADDED THAT HE FELT THAT THE HEART OF THE MESSAGE CONTAINED IN THE KISSINGER SPEECH WAS IN THE AREA OF DEFENSE.

3. DCM OBSERVED AT THIS POINT THAT WHAT HE BELIEVED THE KISSINGER SPEECH MEANT TO CONVEY WAS THAT THERE IS A NEED ABOVE ALL FOR A NEW FRAMEWORK FOR THE ATLANTIC ALLIANCE, THE DISCUSSION OF WHICH SHOULD NOT GET MIRED DOWN IN DETAILS BUT WHICH SHOULD SET AN ACCEPTED POLITICAL FRAMEWORK FOR OUR FUTURE RELATIONSHIP INCLUDING MOST PARTICULARLY OUR CONTINUING DIRECT PARTICIPATION IN THE WESTERN DEFENSE EFFORT.

4. COMMENT: THE ITALIANS SEEM TO BE WORRYING ABOUT THE MEANS TO TO RESOLVE TRADE, DEFENSE AND MONETARY MATTERS IN THE CONTEXT OF A REPLY TO THE KISSINGER APPEAL. THEY ARE FRUSTRATED BECAUSE THERE ARE NO EASY SOLUTIONS BUT THE BROAD APPROACH SEEMS OBSCURED BY THE DETAILS AND A LACK OF AGREEMENT AMONG EUROPEANS ON THE BASIC ISSUES. VOLPE

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